

Message Text

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16

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 ARA-16 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 EB-12 FAA-00

DOTE-00 DRC-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 AID-05 SCI-06 /187 W

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R 051055Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4341

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMCONSULATE DOUALA VIA POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 3244

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, EK, UR, CU, CH, GE

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN EQUATORILA GUINEA

REF: YAOUNDE 2676

1. SUMMARY: DURING CONSUL MITHOEFER'S SEPT. 30-OCT. 2 VISIT MALABO FOLLOWING INFORMATION RE COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES DEVELOPED. COMMUNISTS REPORTEDLY BECOMING FRUSTRATED BY LACK RESULTS THEIR AID PROGRAMS. FIRST AEROFLOT FLIGHT EXPECTED DECEMBER 29TH. RUSSIANS WORKING ON UNKNOWN TYPE INSTALLATION AT FORMER MOKA WEATHER STATION. 4,500 TON DRY DOCK AND COMPREHENSIVE SHIP REPAIR FACILITIES NOW AVAILABLE LUBA. END SUMMARY.

2. FRENCH, SPANISH, CAMEROONIAN AND UNDP SOURCES CLAIM RUSSIAN, CHINESE AND CUBAN REPS HAVE COMMENTED INCREASINGLY ON THEIR FRUSTRATION WITH LACK RESULTS RESPECTIVE AID PROGRAMS.
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CHINESE SENDING CONSUMER GOODS AND RUSSIANS FURNISHING FISH

WHICH NEVER APPEAR FIND WAY THROUGH STATE-OWNED STORES TO CONSUMERS IN QUANTITY APPROACHING AMOUNT SUPPLIED. RUSSIANS IRKED AT LACK OF E.G. DEDICATION IN WORK AND DECISION MAKING WHILE CUBANS DESPAIR THEIR TECHNICAL ADVICE NOT BEING FOLLOWED TO DETRIMENT THEIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. EXAMPLE LATTER WAS CUBAN REPAIR MALABO POWER-GENERATING EQUIPMENT 30 SEPTEMBER. WHEN TURNED ON FOR TWO HOUR TEST, E.G. AUTHORITIES INSISTED SYSTEM REMAIN OPERATIVE IN SPITE CUBAN RECOMMENDATIONS CONTRARY. BEARING GAVE OUT WHICH MAY REQUIRE OVER MONTH TO REPAIR.

3. AEROFLOT: COURTESY CALL SOVIET EMBASSY RESULTED IN MEETING THIRD SECRETARY VLADIMIR SEMIKASHEV (REPORTEDLY TRANSLATOR WHO SPEAKS ENGLISH, SPANISH AND FRENCH) WHO BECAME QUITE FORTHCOMING DURING ENSUING SOCIAL OCCASION CELEBRATING NIGERIAN INDEPENDENCE. CONSUL HAD BEEN INFORMED BY UNDP SOURCE THAT AEROFLOT STARTING SERVICE BEFORE END OF YEAR. SEMIKASHEV CONFIRMED FIRST WEEKLY SUNDAY SERVICE MOSCOW-ODESSA-TRIPOLI-N'DJAMENA-MALABO SCHEDULED COMMENCE DECEMBER 29, RETURNING SAME ROUTE MONDAYS. HE CLAIMED AEROFLOT HAD DONE COMMERCIAL SURVEY AND CONCLUDED ROUTE POTENTIALLY PROFITABLE AS WOULD PROVIDE DIRECT LINK FOR OVER TWO HUNDRED E.G. STUDENTS IN USSR AND EQUAL NUMBER SAILORS ON RUSSIAN TRAWLERS STATIONED E.G. EQUALLY IMPORTANT IS POSSIBILITY PROMPT RECEIPT GOODS DESTINED SOVIET PROJECTS AND PERSONNEL IN E.G.

4. NEW SOVIET ECON OFFICER: DURING EMBASSY VISIT CONSUL MET FIRST SECRETARY ALEXANDRE A. VETROV (GOOD SPANISH) WHO REPLACED A. FIRSOV IN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. HE REPORTED ALEXANDER LARIONOV (ENGINEER AND SECOND RANKING MAN IN SOVIET TRADE MISSION YAOUNDE) CAME FROM YAOUNDE EVERY MONTH OR SO TO DISCUSS COMMERCIAL MATTERS WITH E.G. AUTHORITIES. BOTH VETROV AND SEMIKASHEV STATED RUSSIANS SUFFERING FROM MALARIA AND FIND AVAILABLE SUPPRESSANTS INADEQUATE.

5. MOKA: RUSSIANS HAVE TAKEN OVER SITE FORMER METEOROLOGICAL STATION AT MOKA. TWO RUSSIANS REPORTEDLY ON LOCATION WHICH CLOSED TO PUBLIC. NO ONE SURE WHAT RUSSIANS ARE UP TO, BUT EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN SENT TO STATION. SPECULATION RUNS FROM RESTORATION OF METEOROLOGICAL STATION, TO COMMUNIC

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CATIONS FACILITY, TO SATELLITE OBSERVATORY OR TRACKING STATION. SEMIKASHEV CLAIMED SOVIETS USE MOKA AS REST CAMP TO ESCAPE DEBILITATING MALABO CLIMATE.

6. DRY DOCK: ACCORDING UNDP ENGINEER, RUSSIAN NEWLY ARRIVED DRY DOCK LUBA HAS 4,500 TON CAPACITY, WHICH LARGE ENOUGH TAKE SHIP DONATED E.G. BY PRC. RUSSIAN REPAIR FACILITIES IN SUPPORT FISHING FLEET, HE CLAIMED, WERE SUFFICIENT ALMOST REBUILD SHIP

AND SOPHISTICATED ENOUGH ENABLE THEM ATTEMPT REPAIR DAMAGED
BEARING FOR MALABO POWER GENERATING EQUIPMENT.
MOORE

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